

# WESTON

## MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

5500 SCHOFIELD AVENUE • P.O BOX 446 • WESTON, WI 54476 • 715-359-2876

### 2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The Village of Weston Municipal Utilities is pleased to present to you our 2013 Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about the utility's water quality and the services we deliver to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to know that we are constantly making efforts to improve the process of delivering potable water to your home or business and to protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing top-notch customer service.

Your water is supplied from 6 groundwater wells that range in depth from 70 to 111 feet and are terminated in unconfined sand and gravel aquifers. These wells supplied an average of just under 1,400,000 gallons of potable water each day to over 5,000 households and businesses in the Weston, Rothschild, Schofield and Rib Mountain areas. To obtain a summary of any source water assessments please contact Keith Donner, P.E., Director of Public Works and Utilities at 715-359-2876

The sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

The water from all of the Village's wells is treated to assure that it is of good quality for our customers' use. Chlorine is added to provide a safeguard against disease causing organisms. Fluoride is added for dental health benefits. Additionally, a blended phosphate is added to lessen the aesthetic effects of iron and manganese.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants – bacteria or viruses which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants – salts and metals that can be either naturally occurring or from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides – which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemicals (including Synthetic Organic Chemicals) – which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum refining, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems

Radioactive Contaminants – which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

**Detected Contaminants** - The Village of Weston Municipal Utilities tested your water for many contaminants last year according to Federal and State laws. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The table lists only those contaminants which were detected in your water.

If a contaminant was detected last year, it will appear in the table without a sample date. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the table with a footnote as to the sample date.

In the table you may find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms definitions have been provided at the bottom of the table.

**Unregulated Contaminants** - The utility also is required to test for some unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. EPA required us to participate in this monitoring.



**Lead and Copper Monitoring** - In 2011 the utility performed compliance sampling for lead and copper at 30 sites throughout the distribution system. The utility had no samples exceeding action levels as shown in the accompanying table. The utility will be sampling for lead and copper again in 2014 as this regulation currently requires monitoring on a 3 year interval.



**Health Information** - We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state health standards. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least a small amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the environmental protection agency's safe drinking water hotline (800) 426-4791.

**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromized persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**

**Additional Health Information** – Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Weston Municipal Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

**Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon** - Our water system did not monitor our water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2013. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.

**Other Information** - The Village of Weston Municipal Utilities is responsible around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of the community, our way of life and our children's future.

You may also find additional information regarding the Village of Weston Municipal Utilities on the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resource's website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/>. From the "Topics" dropdown menu click on "Water Resources." Click on "Drinking Water," then choose the "Water Quality Data" icon on the upper left. At the left again choose "Public Water Systems." This will take you to a screen asking for the name of the public water supply and county. Type in "Weston Waterworks" and choose Marathon County to access data kept by the DNR for the CCR (Consumer Confidence Report). You will also note that you can access other general information about drinking water from the "Drinking Water" page.

**Contact Information** - The Village of Weston Water Utility operation is managed by Keith Donner, P.E. Director of Public Works. The Utility's Lead Operator in Responsible Charge is John Borth. If you have any questions about this report or other concerns about your water utility, please contact us at 359-2876.

**Meetings** - You are also invited to attend meetings of the Property and Infrastructure Committee on the first Monday of each month beginning at 4:45 P.M. Or you may attend meetings of the Village Board of Trustees on the first and third Mondays of each month beginning at 6:00 P.M. Meetings are held at the Weston Municipal Center, 5500 Schofield Avenue, Weston.

2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for Weston Water Utility							
Contaminant	Units	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
HAA5	ppb	60	60	3	0 - 3	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
TTHM	ppb	80	0	13.7	3.7- 13.7	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
BARIUM <sup>2</sup>	ppm	2	2	0.128	.043 - .128	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM <sup>2</sup>	ppb	100	100	2	0 - 2	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
COPPER <sup>1</sup>	ppm	AL=1.3	1.3	0.603	0 of 30 results were above the action level	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
LEAD <sup>1</sup>	ppb	AL=15	0	2.75	0 of 30 results were above the action level	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
NICKEL <sup>2</sup>	ppb	100	n/a	2.4300	.4300 - 2.4300	NO	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy production.
NITRATE (NO <sub>3</sub> -N)	ppm	10	10	5.40	2.70 - 6.00	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SODIUM <sup>2</sup>	ppm	n/a	n/a	97.30	7.93 - 97.30	NO	n/a
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. RADIUM & URANIUM <sup>3</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	0.2	-.4 - .2	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
RADIUM (226 + 228) <sup>3</sup>	pCi/l	5	0	1.3	.8 - 1.3	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>							
SULFATE <sup>2</sup>	ppm	n/a	n/a	4.8	1.10- 4.80	NO	n/a

Note: 1. Samples were taken from 06/07/11 to 06/08/11

3. Samples were taken on 08/03/09

2. Samples were taken on 08/11/11

#### Definition of Terms:

**Non-Detects (nd)** - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

**Parts per million (ppm), or milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb), or micrograms per liter (ug/l)** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/l)** - a measure of radioactivity.

**Action Level** - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water, below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**TCR** - Total Coliform Rule

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems (MCL's). FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. The table shows only those compounds that were detected at any level.

## House Re-siding

When re-siding your house, please contact the Weston Municipal Utilities so we can temporarily relocate the remote water meter reader, if necessary, during construction. Following the re-siding we will reinstall the remote meter reader. Please call the Utility Office at 715-359-2876.



**Digger's Hotline  
Call Before  
You Dig!  
TTY 1-800-542-2289  
811**



**Please Contact  
the Utility Office If You Need To  
Make Payment Arrangements**

If you are late with a payment please contact us at:  
715-359-2876

715-355-4534 (after hours voice mail)  
dvanswol@westonwi.gov (e-mail)

## Sewer Backup Insurance By Owner

Weston Municipal Utilities **does not** provide any compensation to property owners (or renters) for damage done by sudden accidental sewer back ups.

Sewer backups are rare, but can be devastating and very costly. The Utility conducts a routine sewer cleaning program. All sewers are cleaned at least once every three years. Problem areas are cleaned more frequently.

We recommend the next time you renew your home-owner's insurance policy that you add to your coverage for this hazard. Some companies offer coverage without additional cost, while others charge a modest fee. We also urge you to install a check valve in your basement floor drain. While this check valve requires periodic cleaning to insure proper working conditions, it can reduce the devastating effects of a sewer backup.

## Lawn Watering

With summer upon us many of us will be watering our lawns daily. Over watering and watering during the middle of the day are the two most common mistakes people make with their lawns. Once a lawn is established it should only be watered once or twice a week. The soil should be moistened to a depth of about 6", which usually means using about an inch of water. The amount of water used on the lawn can be measured by placing a can under the sprinkler. More frequent shallow watering on an established lawn will cause shallow rooting, invite crabgrass invasion, and encourage disease. Early morning is the best time to water, as your lawn has a chance to dry out during the course of the day, also reducing the likelihood of disease and fungus. Watering during midday is a tremendous waste as up to 70% of the water can be evaporated before it is able to soak into the ground.

We ask that all residents be more environmentally responsible and follow these few simple guidelines when watering their lawns this summer.